

THE CHEYENNE ROUNDUP



friendship force
CHEYENNE



March 2017

CALENDAR of EVENTS

Meeting—**March 13th.** Irene Ludwig & Gerry Forney “The History and Heritage of Ethiopia.” {*our program for World Friendship Day*}

Board Meeting—**April 10th.** 4:00P.M.—Members Welcome, Casey Club.

Meeting—**April 10th.** 6:00 P.M.—Prof. Linda Carlson, Colo. State Univ., “Uzbekistan, Along the Silk Road.”

Joint Picnic—**August 6th?** Hosted by Northern Colorado FF.

FFI World Conference, Manchester England — **Aug 24~28, 2017**

Incoming Exchange — Manitoba, Canada — **Sept. 16~22, 2017**

Incoming, Rumsfeld OPEN WORLD — **October 21-25**

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**Monthly Meeting
pot luck dinner**

**March 13th.
6:00 P.M.**

Casey's Club
507 West 28th Street
(Enter from west parking lot.)

Exchange → Journey

from The Peripatetic President

Wishing a HAPPY 40th BIRTHDAY to
Friendship Force International.

We still have some active members who joined our club in the beginning. Special thanks to Jan Larsen, Loretta Humphrey, and Jan Behrens for giving our club a good start. Being one of the early clubs in FFI, we have enjoyed the entire evolution from Exchanges to Journeys. Elsewhere in this newsletter, we see that FFI is now referring to those old Exchanges as our new Journeys. These forty years have seen a lot of planning to create interesting and rewarding experiences.



The past two weeks have been super-busy as we are planning for the second half of this year, and beyond.

-- For our July meeting, we are fortunate to have a special program about the August 21 Solar Eclipse. (Wyoming will not see another Solar Eclipse in this century.) The presenter will be Dr. Andrew Young, a NASA-sponsored scientist. Barbara G. is planning for this to be a public meeting at the Library. Would we like to have this on a Sunday afternoon, or on our Monday evening, July 10?

-- In August, FF- Northern Colorado will host the joint picnic. We have suggested Sunday, August 6th for the event. Who would like to volunteer to be our Coordinator, and work with Annie Brown for this?

-- September is our Hosting month as we enjoy visitors from FF- Manitoba, September 16-22. Carolyn & Jim Webber, our Host Coordinators, have formed a committee and would appreciate your help.

-- October 21-25, we have another opportunity to host a Rumsfeld OPEN WORLD group of 5-6 delegates. The theme would be Economic Development. John Kaiser has volunteered to lead this effort once again. Be ready to say YES when he calls you for help.

And for 2018, FFI has responded nicely to our request. Our outbound Journey will be in June to the FF- Saskatoon (Saskatchewan) club. And Allison Lindsey of FFI is looking for a second club to visit, as well. Our inbound Hosting will be in September for our friends from the FF- Picton-Okanagan club.

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World Friendship Day We will honor this at our March 13 meeting with a special program by Gerry Forney and his wife, Irene Ludwig, of the FF- Denver. Their interesting tour of Ethiopia will also include the early history of Christianity in that country. All of our friends who have studied the Bible will find this program to be especially rewarding. Guests are welcome.

As I'm writing this on the day of Mardi Gras, I'll close with "Laissez les bons temps rouler". (pron. "Lay say lay, bohn tohn roulay". Let the Good Times Roll

Dave



THE HISTORY and HERITAGE OF ETHIOPIA

Denver Friendship Force members Irene Ludwig and Gerry Forney traveled in Ethiopia for almost two weeks in September of 2015.

They were part of a church group that visited the former capitals in order to learn about Ethiopian history and Christianity. Gerry and Irene will share some of their travels with us, and give us insight about the current situation in Ethiopia.

Ethiopia is a land-locked country in east central Africa. The area of Ethiopia is about the same as California and Texas combined. The population totals about 100 million people, almost a third of the United States. The country is very poor, with a GNP per capita of \$739 (compared to \$53,000 for the US).

Ethiopia has the most World Heritage Sites (ten) of any African country, and has been a Christian monarchy for most of its 2,000-year history. Three of the former capitals of the country (Aksum, Gondar, and Lalibela) are World Heritage Sites.



Gerry Forney & Irene Ludwig



Christianity in Ethiopia dates to the 1st century AD, probably the first country to accept Christianity. Christianity became the state religion in 330 AD. (source: Wikipedia)



Exchange



Friendship Force International is updating many things, including the basic language we use to describe what we do and who does it.

*Formerly called an EXCHANGE,
our people-to-people experiences will be called JOURNEYS.*

In fact, the Journeys we create and experience have an itinerary with a purpose. Therefore, FFI will be more specific as each Journey is announced.

For each Journey listed on the catalog, there will be an expanded Itinerary section highlighting the mission of FFI and especially our people-to-people focus of travel and hosting. We want to encourage new members to participate by giving them more clarity about what to expect on a Friendship Force Journey.

These itineraries are not meant to be exceedingly detailed or sightseeing-focused, but to indicate the time our ambassadors have with hosts, with the group in general, and possibly on their own. In order to overcome the misconception that we might be "just another travel club," we want to demonstrate how our hosts and ambassadors have ample time to share meals, make connections, and go off the beaten tourist path together.

The members leading these Journeys were formerly called Exchange Directors. More specifically now, we will refer to them as **AMBASSADOR COORDINATORS** (for outbound Journeys) and **HOST COORDINATORS** (for inbound journeys).

Meeting Minutes for February 13, 2017

Twenty-four members and five guests enjoyed the pot luck dinner. Beverly Swistowicz, our Secretary, was absent while taking care of her extended family. Dave Bentzin, our new President is still learning his job and forgot to ask for a volunteer to write these minutes, so he is doing the job himself.

Dave opened the meeting at 6:00 pm with an introduction of guests.

- Squy (rhymes with sky) and Bea Wallace were introduced by Jan Udell.
- Karen Cox was introduced by her parents, Ingrid and Rod Larson.
- Linda Michaels is an avid cyclist and saw the newspaper article by Tony Adams. Linda was pleased to see her good friends, Barbara and Dennis Guilford.
- Dave Crowlie, our speaker was introduced by Barbara Guilford.

Club Business:

Thanks to Donna Mae Logan for bringing a current Club Roster for everyone in attendance.

Our club was invited to host a Rumsfeld OPEN WORLD group April 22-26. After extensive discussion, it was determined that we would need to decline because too many members would be gone, or were busy with family at that time. Special thanks to Rod Larson and Dennis Guilford for trying to figure out a way to do this hosting. Thanks, too, to Tony Adams for his suggestion that Mrs. Anja Bendel of Cheyenne LEADS might help with an Economic Development theme. Mrs. Bendel might be able to help in the future, if needed.

Elena McCarty, the FFI leader for Open World was notified of our decision. While disappointed she said that there might be a similar opportunity in October. I asked her to consider FF- Cheyenne for that opportunity.

Carolyn and Jim Webber, our Host Coordinators (formerly called Exchange Directors) for our hosting of the FF- Manitoba on Sep. 16-22, reported that FF- Manitoba will be hosted by the Great Falls, Montana club before coming to Cheyenne. At this time, they have not decided whether they will drive, or fly. If they decide to fly into Denver, Jim has offered to meet them with his bus.

(Continued on next page)

Dave Crowlie presented a program about a 5-week cycling trip on the Yucatan Peninsula. His talk (and fine photos) was exceedingly informative as it focused on the ancient Mayan culture and its temples, and the early Mexican plantation culture. He also stressed how hospitable the people were everywhere he stopped, or camped.

Ross Peery won the Door Prize. (Members with name badges and guests are eligible.)

Our next meeting will be Monday, March 13 with a program on The History of Ethiopia by Gerry Forney and his wife, Irene Ludwig, who are FF members from Denver, Colorado.

Submitted by Dave Bentzin



Dave Crowlie marks out his bicycling route in the Yucatan Peninsula for Dave Bentzin and the members at the February meeting in Cheyenne.



friendship force

INTERNATIONAL

Experience different views. Discover common ground.

As our organization celebrates its 40th Anniversary this year, we continue to serve the mission of global understanding through friendship. To help ensure the Friendship Force mission continues for years to come, we've been working to better define our branding and messaging. Through this work, we've developed a new tagline to build a stronger brand for the future of the organization.

Over the years, FFI has had several different taglines, from “Changing the way you see the world” to “Be more than a tourist. Travel for good.” We have heard from you, our cherished members, that the most impactful and lasting aspect of the Friendship Force experience is the increased understanding gained through personal relationships. By hosting or being an ambassador, your ultimate goal is not to see new locales or take beautiful photos, but rather experience different perspectives and gain understanding of the lives of others, towards the shared goal of peace and global goodwill.



We just returned from a very few days down in Pensacola for my annual classmates' fish fry. Yes, I did get my annual seafood/fried oyster fix, complete with hush puppies, cheese grits, collard greens, black-eyed peas, etc. At the fish fry we had mullet, catfish, and grouper--yummy!

We managed to get a quick drive over to the beach where Terry admired the "bikinis" enjoying the white sand and clear water.

Jan & Terry having fun in Florida!



The Cheyenne Friendship Force Newsletter is published monthly (except during the summer). As your newsletter/web editor, I welcome any suggestions, criticisms, and, of course, your articles. And don't forget to check out our updated website where you can view past issues of our newsletter and much more.

A special thanks to those who submitted articles for this issue. It makes my job a bit easier. Thank you all for your support, and please send your comments and articles to me at FFI@LoneTreeImages.com

David

SHINING A LIGHT ON WAYNE SMITH

CHILDHOOD....David Wayne Smith was born July 19, 1934 in Charleston, the state capital of West Virginia, in the midst of the Great Depression. He was raised by Myrtle McGill Smith, his maternal grandmother and Vincenzo Tiago Muscatello, her second husband. Muscatello, (Jimmy) had a profound influence on Wayne Smith. Years later Smith would describe his grandfather as the “kindest man I ever met”. In an article written by Smith in 2004 he revealed that his grandfather had once been convicted of involuntary manslaughter but had been a primary influence in his life.

His grandmother Myrtle, “Mee maw,” and Jimmy built a small shanty and later another structure nearby U.S. Route 60 that was referred to as a ristorante by the Italian, or beer joint by the locals. A family business developed from Muscatello’s ability to grow fine grapes. Jimmy was soon serving fine wine accompanied by tasty meatballs and spaghetti. Soon the Muscatello family that now included Wayne’s younger sister and brother would be working together to make the venture a success.

Young Wayne’s job was serving beer to customers in the pool room and carefully observing human frailty. He became something of a pool shark and practiced his trick shots on unsuspecting adults by betting them he could beat them at a game of pool. He grew from a quiet, introspective youth to recognize the worth of all people. He inquired about their travels. In the back of his mind a larger world emerged beyond Charleston.

LIFE PARTNER..... Wayne Smith described his search for a life partner in an article about Tracy Spencer, an influential family physician. Wayne had been attending a wide variety of churches in Charleston to check out pretty girls. He learned that the substance of faith was evident in all of them. Carolyn Heaster, sat behind Smith in the trumpet section in Charleston High School Band. She attended worship services at the Presbyterian Church. Soon Wayne Smith was attending church Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights. He was baptized before his 18th birthday by Walter W. White.

Carolyn Heaster would become his wife when he was 19 and she was 18. Carolyn Heaster recalled their early marriage. “We lived above a men’s clothing store on the Main Street of Springhill, West Virginia. Wayne took night classes at Morris Harvey College, now Charleston University. He worked at Union Carbide’s Research Laboratory and I worked at the hospital gift shop. I typed all of my husband’s History notes and read all the books.”

Smith began to look for other options to continue his education since the Morris Harvey College was not near Union Carbide. He chose West Virginia State College, a land grant college for black students, applied for admission and was accepted. Any racial prejudice that Smith might have harbored was erased by this experience. He may have been the first student in the U.S. to practice desegregation in reverse. Wayne Smith graduated summa cum laude and enrolled in Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Virginia in 1957. He graduated in 1961 with a Bachelor of Divinity degree; then returned to Charleston, West Virginia where he became pastor of the Elk’s Hill Presbyterian for two years.

To be continued next month...

10 Rules for House Guests

1. Bring a gift
2. Offer to help, but don't insist.
3. Conserve on linens-make do with the same towel, etc.
4. Supply your own toiletries- this is not a hotel.
5. Keep your room/area tidy.
6. Clean up after yourself in the public areas.
7. Happily join in...even if dinner is earlier than you'd like.
8. Ask about house rules...bedtime? pets go out? etc.
9. Leave on schedule
10. Offer farewell thanks AND snail mail a thank you note.